

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EUR-12 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AF-10
ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
PA-01 PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /130 W
-----141205Z 121381 /40

R 131745Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7360

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3735

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-SOVIET BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS
LIMITATIONS; GENEVA MESSAGE NO. 10

1. SUMMARY: WORKING GROUP HELD SINGLE CW MEETING MAY 13.
SOVIETS PREPARED TO BEGIN NEGOTIATION OF TEXT OF JOINT
INITIATIVE, US NOT. AGREEMENT REACHED TO CONDUCT NEXT
ROUND EARLY JULY. END SUMMARY.

2. IN FINAL MEETING OF US-SOVIET WORKING GROUP AT USMISSION
MAY 13, SUBJECT OF CW WAS ADDRESSED. SOVIET AMB LIKHACHEV
SAID OBJECTIVE OF GROUP WAS AS DESCRIBED IN APRIL 11
COMMUNIQUE, I.E. PREPARATION OF APPROPRIATE DOCUMENT TO
IMPLEMENT US-SOVIET SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE OF JULY 3, 1974.
HE REFERRED TO SOVIET DRAFT CW CONVENTION PROVIDED TO US
IN AUGUST 1974 SAYING THAT, ALTHOUGH US HAD SOUGHT SOME
CLARIFICATION, WHICH SOVIETS HAD PROVIDED, AND IT APPARENT
FROM US STATEMENTS IN BOTH BILATERALS AND CCD THAT VIEWS
OF THE TWO SIDES DID CORRESPOND IN SOME RESPECTS, US HAD
NEVER PROVIDED SPECIFIC RESPONSE TO SOVIET DRAFT.
LIKHACHEV SAID SOVIETS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE SUCH RESPONSE
DURING CURRENT SESSION AS WELL AS REACTION TO VERIFICATION
PAPERS PRESENTED TO US DURING PREVIOUS ROUND. HE OFFERED
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TO BEGIN WITH DISCUSSION OF SCOPE OF PROHIBITION AS
CONTAINED IN ART I OF SOVIET DRAFT.

3. BUCHHEIM RESPONDED WITH PREPARED STATEMENT (SEPTTEL) WHICH
ADDRESSED PROCEDURAL MATTERS AND STRESSED US DELEGATION UNABLE
TO BEGIN NEGOTIATION OF TEXT OF JOINT INITIATIVE UNTIL USG
POLICY REVIEW COMPLETED. HE OFFERED TO ATTEMPT TO RESPOND

TO ANY QUESTIONS SOVIETS MIGHT HAVE STEMMING FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS.

4. LIKHATCHEV REPEATED SOVIETS READY TO BEGIN WORK ON TEXT OF JOINT INITIATIVE AND SAID IT WAS UNFORTUNATE US WAS NOT, IN VIEW OF IMPATIENCE WITH WHICH THE CCD WAS WAITING FOR THE JOINT INITIATIVE. DISCUSSION OF TIMING OF NEXT ROUND ENSUED AND IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO MEET AGAIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECONVENING OF CCD ON JULY 5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, US EXPERTS EXPLAINED THAT WE HAD NOT YET COMPLETED STUDY OF SOVIET PAPERS ON VERIFICATION AND THAT WE HAD NOT YET COMETO CONSLUSION WITH REGARD TO STAGE AT WHICH INCAPACITANTS SHOULD BE PROHIBITED. LIKHATCHEV STATED THAT INCLUSION OF INCAPACITATNS WOULD APPEAR TO ENLARGE SOMEWHAT SCOPE OF PROHIBITION ENVISIONED IN SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE AND WAS INFORMED US DID NOT YET HAVE PRECISELY DEFINED POSITION ON THIS ISSUE.

5. RETURNING TO PROCEDURAL MATTERS, LIKHATCHEV SAID THERE WAS WELL ESTABLISHED PRECEDENT OF BILATERAL TALKS IN PARALLEL WITH CCD SESSIONS BUTH SOVIETS WOULD BE PREPARED TO BEGIN NEGOTIATION OF JOINT INITIATIVE BEFORE CCD RECONVENED IF US COULD BE READY. REFERRING TO RESPONSIBILITY OF US AND USSR AS CO-CHAIRMEN TO LEAD CCD, HE POINTED OUT DESIRE OF OTHER MEMBERS TO SET UP CW WORKING GROUP WOULD CREATE PROBLEM FOR BOTH OF US IF TABLING OF JOINT INITIATIVE WERE DELAYED. LIKHATCHEV SAID CO-CHAIRMEN HAD OPPOSED FORMATION OF SUCH GROUPD DURING PREVIOUS SESSION AND WOULD ONCE AGAIN BE IN UNDESIRABLE EFENSIVE POSITION DURING SUMMER SESSION UNTIL JOINT INITIATIVE COULD BE PRODUCED. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE SAID CO-CHAIRMENT WOULD BE UNDER PRESSURE ON SUBSTANCE AS WELL AS PROVEDURES IF THE INITIATIVE WERE DELAYED AND THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE COULD HAVE COMPLETED WORK BEFORE SUMMER SESSION BEGAN. HE CLOSED BY SAYING THERE HAD BEEN MORE PROGRESS ON SUBJECTS DISCUSSED EARLIER IN WEEK (RW/MDW) AND EXPRESSED HOPE NEXT CW ROUND WOULD BE MORE PRODUCTIVE.

6. FOLLOWING MEETING IT WAS AGREED THAT COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE RELEASED AFTERNOON OF MONDAY, MAY 16 EMBARGOED FOR MORNING PRESS TUESDAY, MAY 17. SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED FINAL CLEARANCE FROM MOSCOW BUT WILL CONTACT CUCHHEIM MAY 16. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHEMICAL WARFARE, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA03735
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770170-1183
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770563/aaaacbpr.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: dc7a3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: US-SOVIET BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS LIMITATIONS; GENEVA MESSAGE NO. 10
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